

JEAN ELIOT'S CHRONICLES OF CAPITAL SOCIETY DOINGS

D. A. R. Clans Gather For Convention

DEAR SUSAN:

The clans of the D. A. R. are gathering, and although they are not now "the force that in old days moved heaven and earth" to the fun of watching their squabbles, still they always dress up the Willard and the other hotels a whole lot, and they will keep things going all this week even if it is Holy Week.

Perhaps, too, there will be some little politics played and presumably by the end of the congress there will be several hats in the ring for next year's elections—this year there are only a few vice presidents general to be elected and a historian to fill a place left vacant by death. But the fact that the present president general cannot seek re-election for what has come to be known as a "courageous term," should do a lot to prevent the political pot from boiling over during the session. Mrs. George Thacher Guernsey, the "present incumbent," was the first president general to be elected under the amended constitution for a three-year term without re-election.

For the last two years the Daughters have been seriously and patriotically busy about their chosen war activities. They have bent all their energies in this direction and have done wonders. And there is a very prospect of an entirely peaceful and harmonious congress—one which might, if it were not too well bred, point the finger of scorn at the "peace" conference going on across the millpond and remind it that they are belated, as the newspapers used to say of the Daughters each year during the week of April 19, "just like a parcel of women."

Several Innovations Of D. A. R. Congress.

This twenty-eighth annual Continental Congress of the D. A. R. will be marked by certain innovations. In the first place no one but women are on the program for the opening meeting tomorrow evening, the big gala meeting at which all the notabilities appear. This would seem to be a particularly wise and tactful move in view of the fact that the President, most of the cabinet officers, and foreign ambassadors, who were heretofore depended upon to be the lions of occasion, are at present overseas.

Why, I can't remember when a D. A. R. convention has opened without the French Ambassador, M. Jusserand, among the speakers—and now he's in Paris helping out the peace conference. It has also been the President's custom to take part in the ceremonies—until the last two years. In April, 1917, the United States was just getting into the war and President Wilson was naturally so much occupied, and preoccupied, to go in for making speeches and opening congresses. Last year, however, he accepted the invitation of the Daughters to be present, and it wasn't until they were assembled for the opening meeting that he sent a message to the president general requesting that circumstances would prevent his attending. Although they didn't go on record, the sense of the meeting, as I got it, was that the



MISS MARION AINSWORTH. Who is spending several months in Washington with her aunt, Mrs. Luke McNamee, and having a royal good time.



MRS. LUKE MCNAMEE, Wife of Captain McNamee, U. S. N. Her studio in M street has been the scene of many pleasant parties during the winter just past.



MISS MABEL RHETT GOODE, Daughter of Mrs. Rhett Goode. Her engagement to Major Randolph Coyle, U. S. M. C., of Washington, has been announced.

Fancies, Fads, And Foibles of Capital Society

their home people, and a Washington wedding would not at all have met their view. There is every reason to believe that Congress will be in session, and very busy by June, and the Senate especially will be very much occupied. It seemed well to take advantage of the fact that their father was for the moment having something like a vacation, and so it is to be an April wedding, rather than a June one.

Sarah Miller, daughter of Mrs. John Miller, and Dion Birney are also to be married on April 20; but their wedding will take place right here in Washington—at Mrs. Miller's home in Cleveland Park, to be exact.

It is possible, of course, that some other wedding will be rushed, and that there may be some other Easter brides who have not yet announced themselves. However, although Dorothy Mearns, daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Weston E. Mearns, and Lieut. Samuel B. Brewer, U. S. N., are to have a spring wedding, it won't take place until May; and Mary Webb, who is to marry Dr. Thomas Goodrich, son of Maj. Gen. and Mrs. George Goethals, has elected to be a June bride. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Randall Webb, of New York.

On the other hand, Miriam McGill, daughter of Mrs. J. N. McGill, who is to wed Albert Williams, of New York and Orange, N. J., is yet to be heard from and we have Mrs. McGill's word that the wedding date is "not very far distant." Also Mr. and Mrs. Henry Flather have announced the engagement of their daughter, Lucy, to William H. Flammer, of New York—a graduate of Princeton, 1916, and a lieutenant in the ordnance branch of the service, and the supposition is that Miss Flather is likewise to have a spring wedding.

Announcement Engagement Of Miss Falmesstock.

Then—and this is brand new and generally interesting—Louis Falmesstock, of Washington, is this day announcing the engagement of his daughter, Beatie Marie Falmesstock, to Frederick S. Dickson, 24, of New York and Philadelphia. The Falmesstock family is almost equally well known in New York, Washington and Newport—though I believe they all came from Harrisburg. Mr. Dickson a few years ago would have registered as "of Philadelphia," where he has many friends and relations. But he removed himself to New York, per-

(Continued on Page Fifteen.)

Daughters were considerably put out. And I can't say I blame them.

Mrs. Philip North Moore, president of the Council of Organized Women, is to be the principal speaker at the gala meeting this year; and her subject will be "Women's Relation to the League of Nations." Mrs. George Barnett will give a talk on "A Woman's View of the War Zone." Mrs. Percy V. Pennypacker will speak on "To Have and To Hold," and Mrs. Slavko Grouitch, wife of the minister of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, will talk of "The Effect of the American Revolution on the Serbian Nation."

Another innovation will be the Victory banquet to be held in the large ball room of the Willard on Tuesday evening. The Daughters have never gone in for banquets before, but will try it out this year; and after the dinner there will be a reception in the small ball room. All Daughters are urged to attend this regardless of whether they take in the banquet or not.

Delegates To Visit Mt. Vernon In Body.

On Friday there will be an official adjournment of the congress in order that the Daughters may make pilgrimage to Mt. Vernon to witness the placing of wreaths on the graves of George and Martha Washington by the different State delegations.

Heretofore each State has undertaken this little ceremony "on its own," consequently delegations have been constantly "turning up missing" at the sessions of the congress, and altogether this new order of procedure would seem to be rather a better arrangement.

For the rest, morning and afternoon sessions, reports, addresses, and business meetings will proceed pretty much as in other years; the brief intervals between the various sessions being filled by entertaining for the individual delegates to the congress. And I mustn't forget to mention another new feature of the convention, the exhibit of photographs showing the various war-time activities of the D. A. R., particularly the society's work for the Americanization of foreigners, which will be on view at Memorial Continental Hall. It's well worth seeing.

The delegations from the Southern States, by the way, should be particularly interested in the set of china made for the Confederate White House which is now being exhibited at the antique shop at 515 Seventeenth street. This is the property of Mrs. A. C. Hunt, a daughter of Judge John Curtis Underwood, who was made judge of the First Federal district of Virginia by President Lincoln immediately after the war. Being the last of her line, she has decided to dispose of it in the hope, I believe, that

this china will one day find its way into the house at Richmond, now a Confederate museum, which was Jefferson Davis' home and where he lived as President of the Confederacy.

That's where it should be, of course, for the collection is one of great historic interest, particularly to the people of the South. The china was made in England and never reached its destination, for when it arrived in this country it was seized and put in bond awaiting the result of the war. Finally it was purchased by admirers of Judge and Mrs. Hunt and presented to them. Despite the loss or breakage of an occasional piece, there are nearly 150 pieces left, plates in six sizes, platters, soup tureens, et al. The china is gray in tone, with a lacy pattern and medallions showing Oriental landscapes picked out in brown, yellow, red and green. It's the sort of thing about which collectors rave, and besides there's its undoubted historic value to give a fillip of interest.

Although her father was a Union man, Mrs. Hunt's mother was a double cousin of Stonewall Jackson, and among her things—she has some rare beautiful and valuable old furniture, pictures, etc.—are many mementoes of the famous Confederate general. Judge Underwood was a close friend of Lincoln. It was in his court that Jefferson Davis was tried, and he sat on the bench beside Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase, who was the presiding judge. Among the other things of historic interest which Mrs. Hunt has—or had—is the official document—I don't know its proper legal designation—calling upon the military authorities to deliver the President of the Confederacy to the civil authorities for trial.

Only One Easter Bride Announced.

After Holy Week will come Easter, with its Easter brides. Say, rather, its Easter bride—so far as Washington is concerned—for, curiously enough, there is only one for, only one, at least, in whom society is generally interested. She is Brooke Russell—Roberta Brooke Russell, to give her her full name, although the first part seems not to be meant for daily use—and she is to be married on Saturday, April 26, to John Dryden Kuser, son of Col. and Mrs. Arthur Kuser, of Bernardsville, N. J., and grandson of the late Senator Dryden, of New Jersey.

It seems queer to go through all of Easter Week and not find a single socially important wedding until Saturday. But it doesn't in the least mean a failure in the bride crop—simply that the Easter brides all beat Easter to it and married in Lent. That was equally true of last year, but then it was easily explained by the fact that most of the bridegrooms were likely to be sent overseas at any moment and it behooved them to take Robt. Herrick's "gather ye rosebuds while ye may" advice. This year there is no such excuse; and yet the fact remains that Lent has been sprinkled with important weddings, most of them Roman Catholic and Episcopal weddings—and it's the Roman Catholics and the Episcopalians who are supposed to observe Lent most strictly.

Grace Needham To Wed Joseph Pogue.

The last of the Lenten brides will be Grace Needham, who is actually to be married in Holy Week. Her fiancé is Joseph Pogue, sometime of Raleigh, N. C., but now of the Fuel Administration and hence a temporary resident of Washington. This is a wedding—it's to be on Thursday—in which society of several different sorts is very much interested, for Miss Needham is a good deal of a personality. She's pretty for one thing—and as clever as she can be, which is perhaps to be expected, since she is the daughter of Dr. Charles Willis Needham, until recently head of George Washington University. Her brother was that Henry Needham, well-known newspaper man, who was killed in an airplane accident over Paris early in the war, along with that heroic young lieutenant, Warneford, wasn't it?—who, after downing single-handed a great Zeppelin in a wonderful sensational fight, lost his life just "joy riding" over Paris. He had taken Henry Needham up just to show him how perfectly simple it all was.

Grace Needham is a girl of brains and beauty, and undoubted social position—and one of the very active members of the National Woman's party—the militant suffragists of whom Alice Paul is the head. I believe she is one of those who wear their prison pin—indicating that she has suffered for the cause. Just recently she and Mrs. George Odell and Mrs. Burch Thompson "went into trade" together. They opened what they call "The Wayfarer's Book Shop," which combines business with the philanthropy of supplying the really bookish people with the very latest books. They specialize in volumes that the bookish dilettante is simply crazy about, long before the general public knows of their existence—(if indeed it ever learns it)—and consequently long before the regular book shops, which do not attempt to compile, even such discriminating philanthropy with their business, have them in stock. They're getting a lot of fun out of it—and so are some other people—for their shop is a sort of reading room where one may sit and look over the very latest of literary fads, and is most attractively equipped. Among their most frequent visitors is little Miss Flora Payne Whitney, the Harry Payne Whitney's debutante daughter, who spends considerable time there when she can tear herself away from her typewriter in the Women's National Republican Committee headquarters upstairs in the same building.

"Husband Show" Is Unique Social Event.

There is a good deal of entertaining being done for Miss Needham, much of it conventional enough, but some of it distinctly original. For instance, the society columns carried a demure little note that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edward Russell and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Russell were entertaining on Thursday night in honor of Miss Grace Needham and Mr. Joseph Pogue, who were to be married next week. Which is perfectly true. But this is the way the invitations read:

You Are Invited To Exhibit Your Husband At

HUSBAND SHOW

To Be Held at Apt. 705, The Ethelhurst, Thurs. Eve., April 10, at 8:30

Held In Honor of GRACE NEEDHAM

Who Is About to Acquire One by the Name of

JOSEPH E. POGUE

Manager of Jessie Hardy MacKay, Assistant Manager Theresa H. Russell.

BENCH RULES.

1—All exhibits must wear the regulation collar during the entire show.

2—Due regard must be observed by each individual exhibitor for the conduct of her entry; the management disclaims all responsibility for any but her own.

R. S. V. P.

There's an idea, if you are one of a crowd, most of the younger married set, planning to entertain a new "recruitment" about to join the ranks.

As for the one and only bride of Easter Week, little Brooke Russell, who is the sub-deb, daughter of Col. and Mrs. John H. Russell, U. S. M. C., there are going to be all sorts of doing for her. There's a fair beginning already, even though the last days of Lent really do not lend themselves to gay parties. And all through Easter Week they are crowding thick and fast.

There are to be several house

parties for the wedding. Both bride and groom are so absurdly young—the little Russell girl is barely eighteen, and John Dryden Kuser is—I don't just know his age, but he's still in his senior year at Princeton. And after the wedding he's going back to finish out the term, and his little bride is going to stay with his people at Bernardsville, N. J., until he graduates, and then they're going on their wedding journey—around the world, I believe the plan is. Naturally, it is the very young set here that is most excited about it.

Double Wedding For Overmans Is At Salisbury, N. C.

On the following Wednesday, April 30, comes the double wedding in the Overman family—partly because the Overman girls have a perverse, from the Washington point of view, desire to be married in their own home at Salisbury, N. C. Two handsome and more popular girls than these two daughters of Senator and Mrs. Lee S. Overman one would have to go a long way to find. The two engagements—that of Grace McDowell Overman to Edgar Norris Snow and that of Kathryn Baird Overman to Gilbert Foster Hambley—were announced within a few weeks of one another, along in February.

A double wedding was promised, in the early summer, so it rather startled people when about a week ago they received cards for the marriage of Kathryn Overman for April 30—and not a word about Grace. Her cards, however, followed a day later. And it really is to be a double wedding, though the two girls have separate cards, even as they made separate announcements.

The wedding will take a number of people down to North Carolina. For Senator and Mrs. Overman have been long part of Washington's official society, the Senator being now well along in his third term. But, while the Overman girls have been familiar figures in Washington, whenever Congress was in session, they have never lost touch with their home town and

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